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Paul Debbs  
Statewide Planning Branch  
California Department of Water Resources  
P. O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94238-0001

Dear Mr. Debbs:

I am writing to express my concern over the Public Draft of the California Water Plan Update for 2005. I am especially distraught that water storage is not a strategy recommended by the Plan for addressing California's future needs.

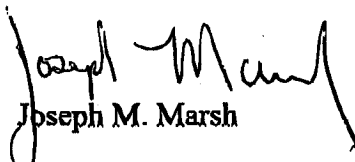
California's growing population needs to eat and needs water to thrive.

It is absolutely critical to ensure that agricultural water is preserved. As a national priority, agriculture ensures a healthy, well fed population that is able to provide its own food supply. This food supply also happens to be the least expensive, safest, and most varied.

Reevaluate the Water Plan and plan for more storage.

Conservation alone will not be enough to meet the projected needs. Some of the formulas used to assess future needs in the Plan are flawed. The Plan needs to be based in sound science with our national security in mind. It also needs to comply with current mandates including Agricultural Code 411 stating that agricultural water supplies must be ensured so we will not be reliant on foreign food.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph M. Marsh

Cc: Colusa County Farm Bureau